

REMARKS

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action mailed March 30, 2006. Claims 1-15, 18-20, and new Claims 21-26 are pending in the Application. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 8-15 and 18-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Applicants have amended independent Claims 8 and 15 in such a way that renders these rejections moot. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 8, as well as Claims 9-14 that depend from Claim 8, and Claim 15, as well as Claims 18-20 that depend from Claim 15, are in condition for allowance. Therefore, reconsideration and favorable action are requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-6, 8-12, 15, and 18-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,502,236 to Allen et al. ("*Allen*"). Claims 7 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Allen*, in view of U.S. Patent 6,493,868 to DaSilva et al. ("*DaSilva*"). Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Allen*. No argument is provided in the "Detailed Action" section of the Office Action for the rejection of Claim 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 or § 103.

Applicants submit, concurrent with this response, an Affidavit under 37 C.F.R. §1.131 that establishes a date of conception and reduction to practice prior to March 16, 1999. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that *Allen* may not, alone or in combination, be used to support rejections of any of the pending claims in the Application. Thus, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejections of Claims 1-15 and 18-20. Furthermore, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims.

CONCLUSION

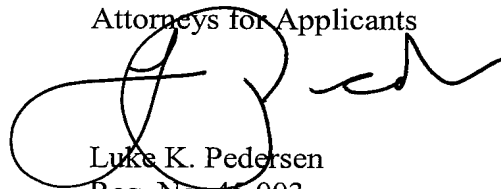
Applicants have made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for allowance. For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully request full allowance of all pending claims.

If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would advance prosecution of this Application in any manner, the Examiner is invited to contact Luke K. Pedersen, Attorney for Applicants, at the Examiner's convenience at (214) 953-6655.

An additional filing fee of \$400.00 is due for the addition of new claims. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge this amount of \$400.00 and any other fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 02-0384 of Baker Botts L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,

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